(c) if not, by when the above work is expected to be completed to make it safe for all weather?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) During heavy rains, some stretches of Assam —Agartala road (NH-44) mostly near Agartala, get flooded for short periods. However, this does not happen every year.

(b) and (c) 78 such bridges, out of 137, have been replaced by RCC bridges. The remaining bridges are proposed to be replaced by RCC bridges in a phased manner by 94-95, subject to the availability of funds.

Appointment in Group 'D' posts in the Central Ordnance Depot, Delhi

1786. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some selection in Group 'D' posts (labourer) have been made in the Central Ordnance Depot, Delhi Cantt., Central Vehicle Depot, Delhi Cantt. and Ordnance Depot, Shakurbasti, New Delhi in the years 1990, 1991 and 1992 in the reserve categories of SC and ST;

(b) if so, whether the selected candidates are still awaiting to join their duties;

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) what action is contemplated in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The selected candidates would be allowed to join after clearance of Ministry of Finance has been obtained.

Rusting of IAF Chassis

1787. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER:
SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH:
SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the report appearing in Indian Express dated 28th May, 1992 regarding rusting of IAF chassis worth Rs. 7 crores;

(b) if so, what is the factual position; and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) 105 vehicle chassis were procured from M/s Ashok Layland for mounting certain systems thereon. As M/s BEL could not adhere to their earlier envisaged Production Plan, to supply the required systems, 87 of the chassis are held in storage and properly maintained. No chassis is missing.

रोहतांग सुरंग संबंधी व्यवहार्यता रिपोर्ट

1788. **श्री सुशील बरोंगपा** : क्या **रक्षा** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या रोहतांग सुरंग की व्यवहार्यता रिपोर्ट अब तैयार हो चुकी है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो इस संबंध में विलम्ब के क्या कारण हैं ?

रक्षा मंत्री (श्री शरद पंवार) : (क) जी, नहीं।